Representation of Association of Dandakaranya project Jagdalpur, M. P.

1491. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation dated the 1st March, 1988 from Class III and IV Employees' Association, Finance Branch Dandakaranya Project Jagdalpur (Madhya Pradesh) regarding the decision of Dandakaranya Development Authority to shift the F.A. & C.A.O's Office from Jagdalpur to Koraput has been received;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties likely to be faced by them due to above decision;

(c) whether Government propose to stop the shifting of the FA&CAO Office in view of the difficulties of the staff; and

(d) if not, whether steps are being taken to avoid the difficulties that would be caused to the staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) All work connected with the settlement of displaced persons in the Kondagaon and Paralkote zones of the Dandakaranya Project having been completed, it was decided to transfer the office of the FA&CAO from Jagdalpur (Madhya Pradesh) to Koraput (Orissa), the headquarters of the Dandakaranya Project. The decision has been taken after careful consideration of administrative efficiency and convenience and in the larger public interest. Movement of Government employees from one station to another in the discharge of their duties is one of the accepted exigencies of service.

Development of wastelands

1492. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has recently been made by Government in regard to the Statewise development of wastelands in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the programmes in regard to the development of wastelands taken up in Orissa during the period from 1985 to 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 1985 to 1988, the development of wastelands in Orissa has been done through afforetation under 20-Point Programme which incorporates Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Forestry Sector, Rural Development, State Non-Plan and Plan Schemes including Externally aided Orissa Social Forestry Project and schemes implemented with institutional assistance by the State Forestry Corporations. The total achievement of afforestation during the period is 3.26 lakhs hectares.

Remittances in foreign exchange by workers in Gulf countries

1493. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the approximate amount received yearly in foreign exchange through remittances by Indian citizens working abroad;

(b) whether the Central Government propose to flow a fund for the rehabilitation of people from Kerala who are returning from Gulf countries on losing their jobs; and

(c) whether any memorandum with the above demand was received by the Central Government from the Chief Minister of Kerala and if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No precise information about remittances received exclusively from In-